

# POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB

## NEWSLETTER APRIL 1998

### PVRC MEETINGS CALENDAR

Weekly	Wed	BWI Regional weekly breakfast. Wednesdays 7:30 am, Basil's Deli, Elkridge Landing Road near BWI
Apr 2	Thu	PVRC/NC meeting at Luna's Restaurant, 3227 Avent Ferry Rd, Raleigh, NC at 6 pm
Apr 13	Mon	PVRC Central, Library in Vienna at 7:30 pm. Program is the XR0Y/XR0Z video. Dinner before at Outback, Old Branch Ave
Apr 21	Tue	NorthWest meeting, Legends Restaurant in Hampton Inn, I-270 & Rt 85, Frederick, MD at 8:00 pm
April 21	Tue	Tidewater Colony meeting with VA-DXCC, D&M Seafood, Newton and Virginia Beach Roads
May 7	Thu	PVRC/NC meeting at Luna's Restaurant, 3227 Avent Ferry Rd, Raleigh, NC at 6 pm.
May 11	Mon	PVRC Central. Church of the Nativity (Episcopal), Route 5, Temple Hills, MD at 7:30 pm The program is a discussion of two radio contesting.

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#### THE MAY ISSUE WILL BE THE ANNUAL ISSUE

with a complete membership roster and reunion-on-the air announcement with a check sheet. It will be mailed worldwide to anybody who has ever been an active PVRC member so please send your updated roster info to W2GG ASAP; I hope to finish the roster edit (and my 1040 form) by April 15th. Please send Reference Page corrections to the editor by the 15th. Articles are welcomed but please check with me with your space requirements. The final edit will be April 25th. This is our chance to wake up dormant testers inside our 175 mirad contest area and alert more distant PVRC^içłers to QSO us in the appropriate contests. editor

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Four articles are being held for a future issue due to limited space. K3MM discusses warming up for a contest, N8II discusses WPX operating, K3MM describes a 2-radio circuit, and N4MM gives info on VA car plates. Thanks all. - editor

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### PVRC CONTEST CALENDAR by Tyler Steward K3MM

#### Log Deadlines:

April 7th	ARRL DX - Phone - email to <a href="#">[email protected]</a>
May 10th	CQ WPX - Phone - email to <a href="#">[email protected]</a>

Contests:

There are no major contests this month.  
Go do some antenna work!

>From the Prez... by Tyler Steward, K3MM.

First let me apologize for not getting the Contest Calendar out last month. Work and my trip to WP3X got in the way... (insert excuse # 69 here).

I hope I don't sound like a broken record, but I want to remind everyone that we'd like to collect at least \$10 from all members as a "donation" to help the club fund the newsletter, web page, and most importantly, it's awards program. Although we decided several years ago to eliminate the mandatory dues to be considered an active member of PVRC, the club counts on the generosity of it's members to keep it's programs running smoothly.

Most of you probably remember that when we decided to get rid of MONETARY dues, we also decided that the club would require each member to submit 2 scores per year of any size to the contest sponsors of any club competition contest. This could be part of a multi-op, etc., but we decided we'd rather have your score than your money! Lastly, in order for your score to count in ARRL Club competition, you are required to attend 2 meetings per year. With all the regional, hamfest, and other type meetings we have these days, it's shouldn't be too difficult for anyone to meet this requirement, and hopefully it'll be a lot of fun as well! We haven't been strict about enforcement on these requirements and we don't want to be policemen (or accountants), so please, don't make us! Hi!

We recently got a letter from WB4DNL who had a couple of criticism's of the 5 million award rules, so I thought I'd comment on them.

His first objection was to the rule that "Under no circumstances will anyone receive Award Points for more than one operation during a particular contest." His example was that he participated in the multi at W4PRO as well as under his own call from home. Under the current rules, he would receive a double share of points from the W4PRO score OR his share as WB4DNL single-op, but not both.

While I don't want to discourage anyone from doing this, I will point out that this is not a very efficient way to maximize points for the club. Since scores in most contests build dramatically toward the end, it doesn't help the club as much if you divide your efforts among two different stations. Yeah, it's nice if you get on with your own call to work the other club members in contests such as SS if you are multi-multi. However, the most

powerful way to build club score is for every station to get on full time using single op's rather than putting on a few big multi's and leaving the home stations sit idle. Since the share of a multi score is usually much smaller than a comparable single-op effort (and I didn't want to discourage guys like WR3L and W4MYA who really go out of their way to invite and train new contest operators) I decided to double those shares to at least make them a little more attractive. From a purely club-centered aspect, it makes the most sense for guys with home stations to stay home and use them, while the multi's use op's that don't have a station of their own. The other alternative is for someone with a home station who will operate somewhere else to let someone guest op at their home station while they are gone. This probably isn't a comfortable situation for a lot of people, but this allows them the possibility to collect the Station Owner points from that operation, which quite likely will outweigh the multi-op points they earn elsewhere. Again, the bottom line on this award is club points. Whatever maximizes points for the club will tend to maximize your points for the 5 million award.

His other concern was with the score-reporting deadline for scores from previous contests, which I will clarify here. For any score from a contest held in last half of 1997 which otherwise qualifies for the 5 million award, you may submit your claimed score at any time up until July 15th, 1998. Once we close the books on the first calendar year, we will revert to the 45-day reporting time previously published. We will remain as flexible on this stuff as possible as I'm sure we'll make some mistakes along the way and don't want anyone left out.

It is important that everyone get their scores into N3II in a timely manner as we will be issuing intra-club awards for various contests in 1998 and you will be left out if you don't meet the 45 day deadline.

Thanks for your letter, Gary (WB4DNL), and I encourage anyone who has questions and/or suggestions to contact the other officers or me or chairmen.

I'd like to congratulate everyone who has sent in a score for PVRC this season on a job well done! Rumor has it that we trashed an all out blitz from NCCC in the 1997 SS to win by 2 million points. The latest QST also has us winning the ARRL 160-meter contest again this year in the medium category, even topping FRC's unlimited entry! Looks like we'll be awarding at least a couple more club gavels (the ARRL club competition trophy) this year! For those who may not know, we typically redistribute these club awards to the top single op entry (combined entry in contests with multiple mode weekends) who has not received one before.

Starting with the 1998 contests, we'll be issuing certificates of

achievement to members for notable performances in the club competition contests. My plan at this point is to mail them to the regional chairmen, who can hand them out at their local meetings with some fanfare.

It's important that everyone keep their membership information up to date including his or her region designation and Internet addresses. The new roster will be mailed to all in May, so we'd like to have it as accurate as possible by then. All changes go to the PVRC Membership Secretary, W2GG.

FINAL REPORT ON THE PVRC LOGO by Brian McGinness, N3OC, PVRC VP

Thanks to the efforts of PVRCer Gordon Garrett, K1GG, the overhaul of the PVRC logo was finally completed. The new logo looks great and can be seen on the PVRC web page. You can obtain a GIF version of the logo directly off the web page, or contact N3OC if a higher resolution version is desired.

This means the QSL card order and the badge order are finally back on track. The badge order that I received last fall has finally been placed, and I should have badges for K3UT, K1DQV, W6HZW, NE3H, W3EMH, W3AZ, W4MYA, and WA0QII very shortly.

I would like to thank everyone for his or her patience waiting for the logo to be revised. It is all volunteer work, and sometimes as a result gets done at a snail's pace. We haggled over the design for several months, then finally got it to Gordon, had one rework with him, and we finally got the result we were looking for.

We are still looking for someone to volunteer to coordinate logo merchandise such as hats and shirts. If interested in helping please contact K3MM or myself.

CLUB DONATION REPORT by Dave Baugher, WR3L, PVRC Treasurer

I would like to thank the following for the donation to PVRC in March: K3RR, K3RON, W0QED, W0CN, NY3M, JH1NBN/K3ZB, N4ZR, W7YS, K6LEW, W4MYA, W4CE, W3YD, W3PLI, N4GU, K3TLX, N3GB, WI2T, W4VC. The donation/dues are most appreciated and needed, keep them coming.

CENTRAL MEETING MINUTES, Feb 9, 1998 by Rich Boyd, KE3Q, Sec

Ten to a dozen of us met informally beforehand at Outback Steakhouse, Route 123, Vienna...early arrivals getting there at 5 PM or so, stragglers as late as 6:45. Had a great time.

Present at the 7:30 meeting at Patrick Henry Library, also on Route 123, were K3MM, W4VC, W1HIR, W0CN, AA4KD,

ND3A, WR3Z, W3EMH, K3ZO, W3ZZ, N3NT, K3OSX,  
KE3Q, K4ZW, N3OC, WR3L, KT3Y, K4SO, W3LPL, W4XP,  
WI2T, W3DQ, W4CE, K4VV, K4IQ. K3MM read several  
membership applications.

WR3L gave a report on the status of the "GO-list" on  
packetcluster. He's been working out particulars with the  
publishers, to continue to make this available to our packetcluster  
users.

K3ZO mentioned that PVRC is starting to get under NCCC's  
(Northern California Contest Club) skin. (This is a good thing.)  
He mentioned NCCC's frustration in trying to "make a  
comeback" in Sweepstakes '97. NCCC was amazed at PVRC's  
score increase apparently and is suspicious that PVRC has people  
submitting scores from beyond the 350-mile circle. This is not  
the case, so we're not losing any sleep. It appears we will win SS  
this time ('97)...so let's start making our plans for November '98  
to do it again!

The main program item was N3OC demonstrating some  
advanced features of CT, the contest logging program...e.g.  
connecting to DXTelnet, etc. (packetcluster DX spotting via the  
internet...useful if you're on a DXpedition, etc.)

W3LPL gave a report on his recent visits to KC1XX, K1EA, and  
K1ZM...all very impressive stations.

We adjourned promptly at 9 PM, since the librarians kick us out  
then.

MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL MEETING, Mar 9, 1998 by Rich Boyd, KE3Q, Sec.

Twelve were at Topolino's for the informal dinner and discussion  
before the meeting. 19 testers were at the meeting at the  
Episcopal Church of the Nativity, Manchester Dr. at Route 5,  
Temple Hills, MD (just off the Beltway). With K3MM not back  
from WP3X, VP N3OC presided.

We went around the room introducing ourselves by name and  
call. Present were: KE3Q, K6LEW, N3WZR, N1WR,  
K3MLA/KG4ML, N3CBJ, N3RR, WR3L, N3NT, W3DAD,  
W3YD, K3ZO, W4MYA, W0CN, WK3I, W3CP, W3AZ,  
N3OC, and W3DQ.

N3OC passed around a copy of the final enhanced, refined, and  
shaken but not stirred logo. The QSL order should be in N3NT's  
hands on or about Wednesday. QSLs can be picked up by  
arrangement from N3NT's or at upcoming general and NW  
regional meetings. Or, they can be mailed to you, if you've made  
arrangements for this and paid the mailing cost.

N3OC explained and passed around a CT loop network box made and being sold by KA2AEV (80M op at N2RM and op at V26B). Means you can network a bunch of computers together using one COM port on each instead of two. It cost about \$60.

N3OC noted the PVRC regions are doing very well...e.g. the NC region, Tidewater VA region, Central Virginia Region, and Delmarva region, our newest, which has been getting 11 or more attending meetings. N3OC, who is often active from Ocean City, MD, is surprised there are so many contesters on the Eastern Shore. K3MM and N3OC hope to get the regional system hitting on all cylinders during '98, with chairmen making regular contact with the individual members in their region.

K6LEW and N3WZR were voted into membership. K6LEW got his novice license in 1952 (year I was born), upgraded to general in '54 and has had this call ever since. He operated a lot from all over the world while in the military and has been operating with the K8GP group (WD8ISK, W3ZZ, W4XP, and others) in VHF contests lately. He lives in DC and has HF in his truck...made many DX stations looking for the DC multiplier happy during the ARRL DX contest.

N3WZR is from Lusby, (southern) Maryland, one of the hams associated with the KE3QZ packetcluster node down that way. He also attended the previous Temple Hills meeting. He notes increasing interest in HF operating, contesting, and DXing, among the southern Maryland hams and an influx of hams associated with Patuxent River Naval Air Station, with "NavAir" consolidating operations there (e.g. WR3Z). With N3WZR was first time attendee N1WR who has recently put up a 90' tower with TH7.

N3RR was our featured speaker, giving us an update on the FCC's RF Exposure standards and ham compliance. He stated that the bottom line is all Amateur Licensees must, AT ALL TIMES, be in compliance with the RF exposure limits (Maximum Permissible Exposure, MPE) which was effective 1/1/98. The new rules require evaluation of station compliance, effective 1/1/98, if your station falls into the following categories:

- (1) You submit a form 610 for any reason,
- (2) you make any modifications to your antenna system, which may affect radiation pattern, or
- (3) you submit a form 610 for a new station license.

If your station does not fall into one the above three categories, you must comply with the evaluation requirement by Sept 1, 2000. **IMPORTANT:** Even if you need not comply with the evaluation requirement until 9/1/2000, YOUR STATION MUST STILL COMPLY WITH THE MPE LIMITS!

If you aren't required to evaluate your station, how do you know you comply with the MPE limits? The answer is I'll evaluate anyway. Here are some important documents:

1. February 1998 CQ magazine, page 95
2. January 1998 QST, page 50 (N3RR has typo corrections)
3. FCC OET Bulletin 65
4. FCC OET Bulletin 65, Supplement B
5. FCC Report & Order FCC 96-326

The FCC documents can be found on the FCC homepage; specifically: [www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety](http://www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety) and [www.fcc.gov/oet/info/documents/bulletins/#65](http://www.fcc.gov/oet/info/documents/bulletins/#65)

Bill mentioned the importance of all this to himself, with his neighbor working at NIH specifically on RF exposure hazards. Bill recommends doing the evaluation of your station and having some copies in your desk drawer ready to hand to neighbors at appropriate times.

Other items: mobiles excluded, handhelds excluded (from compliance requirement). On 10M and VHF, rigs 50 watts or less are excluded.

On your own property you must limit access to areas of your property where RF would exceed exposure limits and must give educational instructions to family members and guests on the hazards. No compliance is required in reasonably inaccessible spots (e.g. 50' above the ground, etc.)

RF exposure is calculated on exposure over time...6 minutes on your own (controlled access) property and over 30 minutes on uncontrolled (your neighbors') property. Bill noted that SSB has a typical duty cycle of 20-50% (assume 50% for contesting using "heavy processing"), and CW is 40%. This is while you're transmitting. E.g. on CW, the spaces between dits, dahs, characters, and words, are non-transmitting times...so if you're transmitting 1,500 watts on CW, you are transmitting only 40% of the time you are sending. This reduces your power, for these exposure purposes, to 1,500 watts times .4, or 600 watts. Add to that that you may be CQing, then listening for answers...consider you may be transmitting just 50% of the time, so further reduce your power, for exposure purposes, from 600 watts to 300 watts equivalent, key down.

K3ZO noted he did these calculations and determined he could stand within half a meter of his 160M sloper and meet the safety standard. Things get more difficult as you go higher in frequency, e.g. 10M and above. But, at 10 meters, Bill calculated that with an antenna 50' high, you are safe if you are at least 40' or so away from it, and that's when it's pointed directly at you. And...the higher your antenna is, the less RF is at ground level where the people are. So, higher is better.

We proceeded from N3RR's talk to "war stories" of recent contest or other related experiences. K3ZO noted his venerable DVK-100 voice keyer has quit; he did most of the ARRL phone "manually," with his own, live, voice. Then his computer ran out of RAM, causing some logging problems 'til he got things straightened out. Fred noted the last 3 hours of the contest, on 15M, "were like the good old days," with Asia really pounding in. I gather it may have been a great JA run.

W4MYA ran his station west of Richmond multi-multi as usual, in both CW and phone ARRL weekends. As usual, the operators were in short supply so there was a lot of operating time for those who were there.

W0CN operated at W3AZ with W3AZ. Dan just has a small station at home and really enjoyed using a bigger station. Several others noted they thought W3AZ sounded a lot younger on the air than usual. Apparently both Dan and Bill had a very good time operating together. Bill apparently lost a Jennings vacuum variable on something or other (must be on an antenna since he had to go outside in the rain to fix it)...so I noted that, of course, every guest op should carry a spare vacuum variable in the car for emergencies. N3OC noted guest ops should carry spare optical encoders too. W0CN noted that W3AZ's DVK did work. W3AZ discussed the failed vacuum variable.

Two didn't get on. WK3I has been busy rebuilding his hamshack room and N3WZR was busy working at a telethon.

N1WR has been making QSOs with his TH7 at 90' and wires. And...being near the bay, and the more southern, saltier, part, can't hurt either.

K6LEW had his arm twisted (on the radio) by N4UK/WP3X to get on mobile from DC and give them the rare DC multiplier. Owen ended up making 251 DX QSOs from DC and didn't seem to put a dent in the demand. These were all mobile from his truck driving to and from work.

KE3Q was at W3LPL, 80M, for both ARRL weekends, with N3OC on CW and with WM2H on phone. 80M won their band both times, W3LPL is the high claimed score on CW but it appears K3LR's time had come and after several years of trying, K3LR has the high claimed score on phone. By the way, W3LPL has placed first in 23 out of 32 opportunities in the ARRL DX contests with the first win in 82 on phone. W3LPL has finished first in at least one of the four DX contests every season since 84/85. KE3Q operated the CQ 160 CW contest from W3LPL single op, with W4ZV's W3LPL log from the previous year on laptop on the side, for interest. It was interesting to note some stations called in at about the exact same time, from year to



the next, including K4FJ who was worked in '97 and in '98 at precisely the same minute on Saturday.

N3OC was on 80M at W3LPL for ARRL CW, and at W3GNQ's for ARRL phone. Brian notes it takes "10 men and a boy" (them) to try to keep up with N3RR, and they came close this year. Brian says they ate very well, as usual. When the power supply of the GNQ-1000 amp blew, Dick was able to fix it. Likewise, some polyphaser item that was up a tower...though he had to wait for the sun to come up.

N3RR was challenged on the air by K3WW to try to stay awake for 48 hours straight. It resulted in some sound sleep during the Sunday morning Europe run time. Bill also had a problem with his IC-775's main tuning knob scraping. He started changing frequency by entering the frequency on CT.

N3CBJ operated with the K3IVO (Ft. Meade club) team. They enjoyed using their new FT-1000MP. Talk to these guys about their club budget sometime. And if you want to eat well, go with them on Field Day.

K3MLA did single band 10 from home with 100 watts and 25' high antenna. He felt he did pretty well, with 50% of the QSO total "da big boyz" (W3LPL) had.

W3CP operated on 15M some using his new quad. W3DQ wanted to get on but didn't. He said DC isn't usually as rare as it apparently was this time. W3YD operated the KB3BLK club station with the Laurel boys and thinks they definitely should get a new club call.

W3DAD operated from home, just 1/2 mile from the K3IVO station. He says the MP has lower phase noise than their previous radio, which really tore things up for him.

N3NT operated at WR3L for ARRL CW, a real joy compared to the stealth antennas at home. WR3L noted again that he could use a bunch more ops for his fine station! Dave not only did the CW weekend full time but got on some by himself during the phone contest too.

The meeting adjourned at about 9:20 p.m. We enjoyed talking to W4MYA about his fiber optics work, on 2M as we drove home. He was headed to Delaware for Tuesday morning work.

PVRC/NC Meeting Minutes March 5, 1998 by KS4XG  
([\[email protected\]](#))

Site: The meeting was held at Lunas Pizza in Raleigh from 18:00-19:30.

Attendees: K2AV Guy, K3CV Jeff, K4HA Bob, K4QPL Jim, K7GM Rick, KF4ARS Kemp, KF4MOK Dave, KS4XG Pete (secretary), N3QYE Jim, N4CW Bert (chairman), N4TL Tom, NT4D Jay, OH2BMH Timo, W2CS Gary, W3GCG Willy, and WB8III Steve.

Membership: This was the second meeting of Rick, K7GM, sponsored by N4AF. Likewise for Steve, WB8III sponsored by NT4D and Kemp, KF4ARS sponsored by N3QYE. Welcome to PVRC, Rick, Steve and Kemp! Chapter membership is now 25.

Club business and announcements: N4CW convened the meeting by welcoming Timo, OH2BMH as a visitor. Timo is in the area for a month courtesy of IBM/Finland and is an avid DXer and contester. Timo even has his home dialup connections in his radio station so he can listen to DX while he works from home! February minutes were approved.

K3CV asked what the official place is for sending club scores for the 5 Million contest.. Scores that are eligible for PVRC credit and which are sure to be submitted to contest sponsors as official entries should also be sent to Dave Blanchard, N3II to count toward the PVRC 5 Million contest (and so the rest of us can see what you did!). Dave's email address is [\[email protected\]](#) and NOTE: you should indicate to Dave if you used another PVRC member's station and indicate their callsign so they can get proper credit.

N4AF sends his regrets. Howie's Dad is still very ill. Howie also sent some good news: he just got word from K3EST confirming first place in the '97 WPX/CW test in the TS category. Congratulations Howie!

K2AV asked about using the NY4A callsign for WPX/CW this year. He was directed to contact the trustee, N4AF.

The chapter website (<http://www.pagesz.net/~pvrcnc>) has gotten some minor improvements including the new PVRC logo. "Real soon now" there will be explicit text with the next meeting notice to provide a backup for folks with browsers that don't show the scrolling banner along the bottom of their browser window (e.g. AOL). There is also an experimental email archive in place that has all the past PVRC reflector email cross referenced by date and subject ("thread"). After discussion the consensus was that a moderate level of security would be adequate to protect the privacy of reflector mail. KS4XG will get a similar OK from PVRC and then publish the URL of the archive on the reflector. Because the exact URL will have to be known (folks can't casually browse the website directories and discover where the archive is) there will be moderate security.

Member activities: AA4NC and K4MA flew down to VP5 and

met with W4WA to operate M/S for the ARRL DX contest this weekend as VP5NC. Will and Jim hope to put up a kite vertical to help with their low band performance.

W2CS has found 10 meters to be "wide open" and has worked HS1 and other DX using an 80-meter dipole. Gary plans to put up additional wires before tackling a tower project now that he's retired from IBM.

N4CW (also retired from IBM) just got a Cushcraft X9 and is preparing to put it with a 40m beam (probably a 402CD) on a tower "soon". Right Bert?

W4QPL described a humorous set of exchanges during the NC QSO party in which a runner gave out three consecutive #1 serial numbers, later explaining he did this because "the first guy I talked to said I was #1 so I assumed I was #1 too." Jim also provided some expert advice about property line setbacks and guidelines for putting towers and guy anchors close to the lines (Jim is a lawyer).

K2AV asked about Force 12 antennas and was told to be sure to find a supplier with stock because lead times at the factory can be very long. OH2BMH said his C3 was the best tribander he's had at his QTH and he'd used many kinds before getting the C3.

KS4XG brought one of his new homebrew Beverage boxes for an ON4UN bidirectional design with a mod suggested by W3LPL to isolate the feed. W3GCG provided tips about Beverages, describing one novel design using speaker wire lying directly on the ground, and showed a very high power current balun a friend had designed.

Next Meeting: The next PVRC/NC meeting will be 6pm Thursday April 2nd at Luna's Pizza, 3227 Aventura Ferry Rd in Raleigh. 919-0854-9600

CENTRAL VIRGINIA CHAPTER MINUTES, March 10, 1998 by Bob S., W4DR

The Central Virginia chapter hosted YK1AO and YK1AR at their March 10th meeting. Omar gave a talk on the history of amateur radio in Syria and information of interest for tourists. It took him 14 years to obtain a license (we think our FCC is slow!), but the pace is picking up. YK1AH got his license in only 6 months. Omar was presented with a 160-meter vertical, coax and an Auttek RF-1. He has set a goal of DXCC on 160 and says his operation will be the first ever on 160 by a Syrian amateur. I expect him to be QRV by April 1 on top band. The antenna was a gift from the CVCC and many individual amateurs, including a number of PVRC'ers. Tnx to everyone.

NW REGIONAL MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 17, 1998,

by Greg Altig, N5OKR ([\[email protected\]](#))

In attendance were members N5OKR, K3MM, K3UT, K1DQV, W3XY, NE3H, K3MQH, WA3IKK, K3TZV, K3SX, W8ZA, K8OQL, K2UOP, N4MM, W3NRS, K3IXD, N3KTV, N3HBX, W3ZZ, WI2T, K4VV, W1HIR, W8BOZ, and guest W3XG.

N5OKR, Greg, introduced himself as the new regional chairman, to the boos, whistles, and catcalls of the crowd led by W3NRS. After having to forcibly bring the mob under control, the initial discussion centered on whether the huge attendance this evening was attributable to the fact that Greg was taking over or that K3MM, Tyler, was stepping down. Six of one, half dozen of the other if you ask me. It was great to see the room filled whatever the reason!

Greg called everyone's attention to the club roster making the rounds at that time and asked that all review their information for accuracy. Greg will forward any changes to W2GG to ensure the May update is as correct as possible. That request is extended to all that could not attend. Please check your PVRc roster and forward any changes to Bob or me at your earliest convenience.

Greg further bored the crowd (does this guy ever shut up?) by calling for any new ideas for the region. Suggestions of new meeting locations, times, and/or dates are welcomed, as are any other thoughts on how we can improve what is already the best region in PVRc.

K4VV, Jack, op'd from EU PVRc DK5AD and stayed with Knut during ARRL SSB. Jack also has a new 3 element 20M beam up at 60', and is enjoying his newfound directivity. W1HIR, John, has a new QTH and is investigating the radio possibilities from there.

W8BOZ, Russ, has been traveling with little time for ham activities. WI2T, Jeff, op'd at W3GNQ for the CQ 160 SSB test. W3ZZ, Gene, op'd at W3GNQ as a M/2 for the ARRL SSB test and reports good food/good points. Gene also noted outstanding trans-equatorial propagation recently.

N3HBX, John, was a 20M SB entry in the ARRL SSB test, but lost his directivity late when his rotor quit. Could this be the directivity that K4VV has suddenly found? K3IXD, Ed, participated in the CQ 160 SSB and both ends of the ARRL DX test from home.

N3KTV, Jim, currently has two FT-1000MPs occupying floor space at his house, which woke up the crowd. Offers to relieve Jim of these tripping hazards flooded in! W3XG, Kris, was in attendance as a guest of W3NRS and lives near WB3AVN. W3NRS, Norm, showed off the hardware that will comprise the

new link for the K3WX/r on his tower. The increase transceive capability for us out here in the "boonies" will be much welcomed! N4MM, John, reviewed the new DXCC 2000 rules that are to take effect on March 31, and the new DXCC countries that will result from it. From the rumor mill, the FCC may be making some changes to the amateur licensing system soon. Standby for heavy seas on this one!

K2UOP, Tom, is a dedicated VHFer who dabbled in the recent HF tests. This foray into uncharted territory exposed some antenna flaws Tom was previously unaware of.

K8OQL, Jerry, has found that working all three of the most recent contests has caused some domestic harmonic imbalance that he is paying dearly for (Been there....done that!). He was at W9LT for the CQ 160 Phone test, and at WD3A for both ends of the ARRL DX contest.

W8ZA, Robert, was with K8OQL at WD3A as a M/2 entry in ARRL. At home, he has installed the first beverage towards EU and reports greatly enhanced hearability. K3SX, Sid, worked his 170th country on 160M (a 3A), and took some good-natured ribbing for his "now QRT" spot of a 5B4 on the cluster recently.

WA3IKK, Dusty, reports he will be gunning for K3SX in the pileups...K3MQH, Dick, did a small effort in both the 160 and ARRL SSB contests from home, but has been otherwise busy repairing ice damage to the VHF contest station in preparation for this summer. NE3H, Joe, has been working so hard (at his job, unfortunately) that he hasn't seen the sun in three weeks. Someone get that man a dosage of vitamin D!

W3XY, Denly, gleefully reported breaking the 500K barrier for the first time in the ARRL SSB test. Congrats! K1DQV, Roger, has been working some antenna projects with BB and brought some "Maurice Specials" to show. He was partnered with N5OKR at W3LPL on the 10M band for ARRL SSB (poor guy!). K3UT, George, reports no radio life. (He and NE3H need to be kidnapped and chained to a chair in front of a radio until they get their priorities straight!)

K3MM, Tyler, gave a report on his operation from WP3X in the ARRL SSB test. Their score (12.6M) appears to have won the world, and Ty's 15M effort (3550 Qs!) proves what kind of iron man it takes when conditions are good.

A special thanks on behalf of the Northwest Region to Tyler for his efforts to make this region particular, and the club as a whole, what it is today. Meeting adjourned.

PVRC DINNER ROVERS by Jack Hammett K4VV  
[\[email protected\]](#), 703-281-1308, cluster

On March 25 a dinner meeting was celebrated at Mortons in Tysons Corner, VA. Attending were Bill/N3RR and Barbara, Roger/K1DQV, George/K3UT, Owen/K6LEW, Marty/W3YOZ, John/K4IQ, Gene/W3ZZ, and Jack/K4VV.

We had great food and lively discussions. Bill N3RR has formed a company to do technology consulting; he will address many challenges including consulting on RF exposure compliance. Roger K1DQV described and displayed photos of his Big Bertha tower rehab and installation with a stack of yagis (including 80m). George K3UT was a key crewman in the installation of the Big Bertha system. Gene W3ZZ led a discussion of VHF and propagation issues. Jack K4VV circulated the propagation information from the winter issue of the Communications Quarterly which suggests that Cycle 23 is likely to be second only to Cycle 19, and could be the best ever. Owen K6LEW (new member in PVRC) discussed his support of the K8GP VHF contest group and the progress of his company (C3I) in renewing the Rutland Arrays VHF antenna production of K1FO designs. Marty W3YOZ participated in the discussion of VHF antenna design and performance. John K4IQ led a discussion of elevated radial performance on 160m verticals.

PVRC CONTEST SCORES by Dave Blanchard, N3II

[\[email protected\]](#)

Be sure to send your score into CQ or ARRL.

CQ 160 MTR SSB (#5 3/31/98)

CALL	Q'S	ST	DX	TOTAL
SINGLE OP HIGH POWER				
N4RV	912	57	32	200,072
W9LT	718	54	33	176,088
K8OQL	616	55	18	104,390
K2UOP	492	48	10	62,640
K3OSX	420	42	17	59,118
K2AV	210	37	9	21,804
K3SV	155	37	13	20,750
K4ZW	173	35	7	16,842
N4MM	126	35	9	13,464
N4TL	131	45	0	13,365
NT4D	57	22	3	3,275
WV3B	40	20	1	1,806
SINGLE OP LOW POWER				
KS4XG	138	33	4	11,507
N3UN	120	34	5	10,725
WD3A	124	30	1	8,246
K3CV	110	34	0	8,092

KB3AUG	74	29	4	5,775
W8ZA	90	29	0	5,394
K3DNE	86	26	1	4,806
W3CP	64	23	1	3,216
N3TG	47	20	0	2,000
N4CW	46	18	0	1,764

# MULTI OPERATOR

K3IXD	513	52	21	89,644
K3MM	288	58	0	39,034
W2GG	257	49	12	37,332
N3RR	213	44	15	34,928
WA4DAI	66	29	4	4,950

	SCORE	#LOGS
CW	3,075,978	39
SSB	961,027	27
TOTAL	4,037,005	66

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1997 score (CW/SSB COMBINED)

Frankford Ra Club	8,568,548
Southeast^i¿¿n DX C	4,434,105
Contest C Finland	3,702,211
Slovenia C Club	3,584,745
Soc Midwest Contes	3,513,618
North Coast Contes	3,405,061
Yankee Clipper C C	3,344,810
Potomac Valley R C	2,747,588

ARRL DX SSB (#5 03/28/98)  
PWR/BAND QSO MULTS SCORE

# SINGLE OP - UNASSISTED

K3ZO C	2267	383	2,607,081
KS4XG C	1490	270	1,200,000
K3OSX C	860	272	701,760
N8II C15	1243	124	462,396
N3HBX C20	968	117	339,066
K2UOP C	486	211	307,638
N4MXT C15	801	112	269,136
K3SV C	400	190	228,000
N4CW C	273	167	136,773
K3CV C15	280	88	73,920
N4TL C	169	100	50,100
K3SX C	150	87	39,150
K4ZW C10	207	50	30,750
W4ZYT C	107	75	24,075
K4HOT C	117	62	21,762
W3GCG C	57	42	7,182
W3LM C20	41	29	3,567

N3UN	B	539	206	333,102
N4MO/TI7	B15	1608	58	279,792
W4YE	B15	282	90	76,140
N3TG	B	194	115	66,930
W4SD	B	168	115	57,960
W3CP	B15	167	62	31,062
WA4QDM	B40	148	64	28,416
W2BZR	B10	101	32	9,696
K3MLA	B10	104	26	8,424
N3XQP	B	38	24	2,736

SINGLE OP - ASSISTED

N3RR	C	1700	435	2,218,500
K3DI	C	720	294	635,040
W3XY	C	633	285	541,215
NT4D	C	610	242	442,860
W3HVQ	C	528	258	408,672
KB3AUG	C	519	259	402,486
K3IXD	C	516	254	393,192
K4SO	C	334	216	222,912
W4JVN	C	289	146	126,582
WR3L	C15	364	102	111,384
KO4MR	C	600	139	83,400
KA4RRU	C	212	129	82,044
W2GG	B	735	303	668,115
W3UJ	B	758	252	573,048
K3SA	B	550	267	440,550
K6IR	B	374	155	173,910
N3GPU	B	284	139	118,428
W3DAD	B	161	96	46,368

MULTI SINGLE

VP5NC	C	6192	311	5,777,136
N4RV	C	754	377	1,983,774
W3AZ	C	1084	310	1,008,120
DK5AD	C	283	98	83,202

MULTI - TWO

W3GNQ	C	1905	428	2,443,452
W8ZA	C	1499	353	1,586,382

MULTI - MULTI

W3LPL	C	5171	592	9,151,728
W4MYA	C	2937	480	4,223,520

.....	TOTAL	...	LOGS	
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CW	51,702,252	52
SSB	41,342,634	53
GRAND TOTAL	93,044,886	105

LAST YR	UNLIMITED	CW + SSB
FRANKFORD	RC	139,419,582 170
YANKEE	CCC	131,740,371 187



POTOMAC VRC 58,213,623 96

OPERATORS:

DK5AD - DK5AD K4VV  
N4RV - N4RV KT4W  
W3AZ - W0CN W3AZ  
W3GNQ - W3GNQ K3SKE W3ZZ N3OC WR3Z K3LP W3GO  
W3LPL - W3LPL K1HTV AI3M KE3Q WM2H K3RA W3UR  
ND3F KW4T KC3EK K1RZ KD4D N5OKR K1DQV  
W4MYA - KB4DI AD4TS KF4QQY KD4JXY WA4QDM W4KY W4MYA  
W8ZA - W8ZA K8OQL WD3A

CQ WPX SSB (#1 3/30/98)  
PWR BAND Q<sup>^</sup>i<sub>z</sub>z<sub>s</sub> MULT SCORE

SINGLE OP - UNASSISTED

KE3Q	C	3032	863	7,234,529
KS4XG	C	257	169	118,807
N4MM	C	0	0	14,688

SINGLE OP - ASSISTED

K4VV	C	200	166	87,316
W2GG	B	827	469	1,145,767
WA4QDM	B	353	230	254,840

MULTI SINGLE

A61AJ	C	3928	868	10,263,000
KT4W	C	2371	809	5,296,523

MULTI - MULTI

KS3F	C	3660	1028	9,299,288
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TOTAL SSB/LOGS 33,714,758 9

OPERATORS:

A61AJ: A61AJ K3LP  
KE3Q: KE3Q @ W3LPL  
KT4W: KT4W N4RV @ N4RV  
KS3F: W3PP KE3ZR N3WDL  
NX3A KS3F

A=QRP B=LowPwr C=HiPwr

More WPX results and prior year scores will appear in  
the next issue. - editor

PVRC REFERENCE PAGE (Please send corrections to the editor.)

PVRC Officers

President	K3MM	Tyler Stewart	301-414-5444	<a href="#">[email protected]</a>
Vice President	N3OC	Brian McGinness	301-652-6768	<a href="#">[email protected]</a>

Secretary	KE3Q	Rich Boyd	301-464-8014	<a href="#">[email protected]</a>
Treasurer	WR3L	Dave Baugher	410-DX1-WR3L	<a href="#">[email protected]</a>
Historian	K3SA	Steve Affens	301-774-0558	<a href="#">[email protected]</a>
Membership Sec	W2GG	Bob Dannals	410-472-2004	<a href="#">[email protected]</a>

PVRC Charter Members:

W3GRF (SK), W4AAV (SK), W4KFC (SK),  
N0FFZ (SK), W4LUE, W7YS, VP2VI  
(W0DX), W3IKN, W4KFT.

PacketCluster Contest/DX System (MHz):

K3NA	Frederick MD	145.630	
W3LPL	Glenwood MD	145.590	441.250
KE3Q	Bowie MD	145.570	445.375
N3RR	Rockville MD	145.510	441.325
N4OHE	Mt.Weather VA	145.710	440.925
K3MQH	S Mountain PA	145.630	
WR3L	Baltimore MD	145.610	440.950
N4SR	Woodbridge VA	145.630	*
K4FJ	Mt. Vernon VA	145.770	*
KE3QZ	Hollywood MD	145.690	*

This system is sponsored by the Potomac  
Valley DX Spotting Network except "\*" are  
independently funded by each SYSOP.

PVRC on Internet.

PVRC web site by K3SA: <http://www.pvrc.org>  
PVRC/NC web site by KS4XG <http://www.pagesz.net/~pvrcnc>  
PVRC reflector:

To join send an email to [\[email protected\]](#)  
with text of SUBSCRIBE PVRC.  
Post to [\[email protected\]](#)

Dues are by donation. The mandatory \$10  
dues have been discontinued. So please send  
your donation - hopefully at least \$10 - to  
Dave Baugher, WR3L, 615 Rockway Beach  
Av, Baltimore, MD 21221, Please make  
checks payable to PVRC. Thank you.

Newsletter & Autocall column Editor: Dick  
Wilder, K3DI, 913 Shore Acres Rd, Arnold,  
MD 21012-1724. Voice 410-757-6706,  
FAX/modem 410-757-6720, Dxcluster packet,  
and [\[email protected\]](#) Deadlines are the 25th  
unless prior arrangements are made.

CENTRAL: The Central Meeting is always  
the second Monday (except June, July, and  
August) at 7:30 pm. The central meeting  
generally alternates between MD and VA  
locations. A pre-meeting dinner is usually

held between 5:00 and 6:30 pm. Check via  
147- repeater.

VA LOCATION: The Patrick Henry  
(Public) Library, Route 123, Vienna, VA. Pre-  
meeting dinner at Outback, Old Branch Ave.

MD LOCATION: Church of the Nativity  
(Episcopal), Route 5, Temple Hills, MD. Pre-  
meeting dinner at Topolino's.

NORTHWEST: Greg Altig 301-898-1428  
[\[email protected\]](#) Meets at 8:00 pm on the  
third Tuesday every month at the Legends  
Restaurant in Hampton Inn, at I-270 and Route  
85 in south Frederick, MD. Essentially  
includes WEST VIRGINIA area.

NORTH CAROLINA: Chair: Bert Michaud,  
N4CW, [\[email protected\]](#) Sec: Pete Soper,  
KS4XG, [\[email protected\]](#), hm: 919-362-  
4635, wk: 919-481-3587. Activites: Jim  
Stevens, K4MA, [\[email protected\]](#).  
POC is N4CW and KS4XG. Howie Hoyt,  
N4AF, [\[email protected\]](#) is PVRC reflector editor.  
PVRC/NC meets at 6:00 pm the first Thursday  
of every month at Luna's, 3227 Avent Ferry  
Rd, Raleigh, tel. 919-854-9600. Luna's is in a  
strip mall behind Courtney's Restaurant. Go  
in, and proceed to the back, and up the stairs  
to a large table set and waiting for you.

TIDEWATER (VA) COLONY OF PVRC:  
Don Lynch W4ZYT 804-486-0728  
[\[email protected\]](#) Meetings are the  
3rd Tuesday of every month in conjunction  
with the VA DXCC at the China Palace  
Restaurant corner of Newtown Road and  
Kempsville Road in Norfolk. Take 64 to the  
Newtown Road exit south. Kempsville Road  
is the second traffic light. The restaurant is  
across the intersection to the right.

SOUTHWEST VA CHAPTER: Coordinator:  
John Mitchell, K4IQ, Catawba, VA 540-384-  
7377, [\[email protected\]](#) Meets at Denny's  
Restaurant in West Salem (exit 137 to  
intersection & left before the traffic light) OR  
at Pargo's Restraurant in Roanoke, VA.

THE BWI REGIONAL/PVRC: Weekly  
breakfast Wed at 7:30 AM at Basil's Deli Port  
on Elkrdige Landing Rd 1/4 mile South of  
Winterson Road 410-850-4333. Director: Ike

Lawton, W2EOS, 410-263-2830. Secretary:  
Howard Leake, W6AXX, 410-465-7008,  
[\[email protected\]](#)

OVER-THE-HILL BUNCH (Luncheon):  
Rotating hosts announces meeting info. Ben  
Shaver, AA4XU, 703-534-4740; Andy  
Anderson, W3XE, 301-384-7771,  
[\[email protected\]](#), Holiday Inn, College  
Park MD; and Bill Leavitt, W3AZ, 301-292-  
5797, Ramada Inn, Oxon Hill

RAPPAHANNOCK or WOODBRIDGE:  
Jack O'Mara W4NF 703-680-4106 and Cliff  
Deel W4CE 703-491-0841  
[\[email protected\]](#)

CENTRAL VA: Bob Morris, W4MYA 804-  
457-9011 [\[email protected\]](#)

EASTERN-SHORE (DEL-MAR-VA):  
Dallas Carter, W3PP 302-875-0550  
[\[email protected\]](#)

WEST (Shenandoah, etc) Chair vacant

NORTHEAST: WR3L, see info above

EAST (Annapolis): KE3Q, see info above

OTHER MEETINGS (based on last year):  
Jun. W3LPL open house Sat before Field  
Day with joint FRC/PVRC meeting  
on alternate years. (1999, 2001)  
summer. When joint FRC/PVRC is at FRC,  
they announce the date.  
Jul. Cook out at N4AF, Apex, NC  
Jul. Open house, W4MYA, Goochland,  
Aug. Joint NCDXA/PVRC Fowlfest at  
W3YOZ Park  
Aug. VHF++ meeting/workshop at ND3F  
in Ellicott City  
Sep. PVRC meeting at the FARfest in  
Gaithersburg  
Sep. Open house, WR3L, Baltimore  
Dec. Christmas dinner, DC area.

5 MILLION (CLUB COMPETITION)  
AWARD Month and w/e number  
Jan 3 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes  
Jan 4 CQWW 160m CW  
Feb 3 ARRL DX CW

Feb 4	CQWW 160m SSB
Mar 1	ARRL DX SSB
Mar last	CQWW WPX SSB
May last	CQWW WPX CW
Oct 4	CQWW DX SSB
Nov 1	ARRL Sweepstakes CW
Nov 3	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB
Nov 4	CQWW DX CW
Dec 1	ARRL 160m Mixed
Dec 2	ARRL 10m Mixed